

14 February 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/NFAC
 JNIO/Strategic Forces

SUBJECT : SSCI Statement on A/B Team

1. Attached is a dead horse which has shown no improvement with age. It is a statement the Committee would release to the press Wednesday afternoon. We have been asked to examine it for "classification."
2. This statement consists of two parts:
 - a. The summary of the Committee report done a year ago.
 - b. Individual statements from Senators Moynihan, Hart, and Wallop.
3. The Committee summary was tendered to us last summer; then held so the B Team participants could inject their views. This summary refers to the "recent estimate," by which it means 11-3/8-76. For openers, I would suggest we ask them at least to get on record with the fact that they are talking about an estimate and an exercise now history.
4. The Committee summary has not changed much. It takes some swipes at both teams. Senators Moynihan and Wallop support the B Team and purport to find that National Intelligence Estimates of the past dozen years failed to properly warn of the Soviet threat. Senator Hart defends the A Team.
5. I see nothing in here that violates classification, although I see much that violates objective reason. We probably will have to live with it.

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6. Nevertheless, it might be worth asking the DCI to contact Chairman Bayh suggesting that this is an issue whose time has passed and, perhaps, neither the Committee nor the Community are likely to profit from its exhumation now.

7. I would appreciate your reaction as the Committee staff will no doubt be panting at the outer gate by sundown. If you want more time, I suspect we can get it, however. The subject is hardly time-sensitive.



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